



STATE OF UTAH

GARY R. HERBERT
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
84114-2220

SPENCER J. COX
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 6, 2019

Dear Troy,

I am very sorry to hear that you have decided to resign from the Suicide Prevention Taskforce. I know the taskforce, myself included, has valued your input, expertise, and dedication to helping us seek out solutions to support Utah teens and prevent suicide.

I am anxious to ensure that these precious youth — of limitless potential and boundless worth — are loved and accepted for who they are. Our shared goal of reducing teen suicide should remain our primary focus and objective.

I want to assure you that while we don't always agree, I appreciate your efforts to improve life for our LGBTQ+ community, and particularly our LGBTQ+ youth.

In this matter, I have felt that it is very important that our LGBTQ+ youth need better access to trusted professionals and people they can talk to about their identity and feelings. I also think it's important to protect the rights of parents in counseling with their children in these sensitive matters.

I know these are difficult and emotional issues, but I am, and have been, striving to learn and better understand these issues in order to help achieve the best policy to protect and support Utah's children.

Troy, I respect you, and your role and work in advocating for LGBTQ+ youth. To that end, I would like to invite you to meet with me regarding your specific concerns.

By working together in good faith, we can develop good policy for Utah.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary R. Herbert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gary" and last name "Herbert" clearly visible.

Gary R. Herbert
Governor